

19980810.ba v02_n163.bam.980810 v02_n164.bam.980810

>From ???@??? Tue Aug 11 05:45:54 1998
Message-Id: <199808101532.KAA17274@sco.theporch.com>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 10:32:20 CDT
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 2163

BOATANCHORS Digest 2163

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) RCA Senior Voltohmyst for sale
by Avery Comarow <acomarow@USNEWS.COM>
- 2) Thanks, Re. knurled fasteners.
by JESelkregg@aol.com
- 3) RE: Knurled fastener source?
by Ed Sieb <esieb@gmsiworld.com>
- 4) RE: Knurled fastener source?
by Ed Sieb <esieb@gmsiworld.com>
- 5) FS Military BA's (Heavy)
by "Robert P. Buehlmann" <w4tim@mindspring.com>
- 6) Re: Lets see... & NC400
by Ed Tanton <n4xy@att.net>
- 7) Inventory reduction sale - prefer good homes ;)
by MODSTEPH@ACS.EKU.EDU
- 8) RE: ULTRA AMPLITUDE MODULATION REF'S
by polepeeg@aa4rm.ba-watch.org (BA Marina Electrician)
- 9) RME-69 Paint Question
by Dexter Francis <cwest@xmission.com>
- 10) Re: SX-42 gotchas
by ke8rn@juno.com (GEORGE J MISIC)
- 11) Re: Let's see where this goes..
by ke8rn@juno.com (GEORGE J MISIC)
- 12) Re: RME-69 Paint Question
by Jim Garland W8ZR <4CX250B@miavx1.acs.muohio.edu>
- 13) AMANA HAMFEST REPORT
by Allan Culbert <Allan-Culbert@uiowa.edu>
- 14) FS Forgot to mention a GRC-19
by "Robert P. Buehlmann" <w4tim@mindspring.com>
- 15) RE: ULTRA AMPLITUDE MODULATION REF'S
by "James C. Garland" <4CX250B@miavx1.acs.muohio.edu>
- 16) Re: RME-69 Paint Question
by Henry van Cleef <vancleef@netcom.com>
- 17) Re: SX-42 gotchas
by "A. B. Bonds" <ab@vuse.vanderbilt.edu>
- 18) Best VHF BA rx
by Bill Strangfeld <bstrang@iac.net>
- 19) HQ-110 Meter Cover

by "William L. Fuqua III" <wlfluqu00@pop.uky.edu>

Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: Avery Comarow <acomarow@USNEWS.COM>
Subject: RCA Senior Voltohmyst for sale
Cc: BOATANCHORS@LISTSERV.TEMPE.GOV
Date: Sun, 9 Aug 1998 21:17:16 -0400
Message-Id: <01171690600948@usnews.com>

This is the WV-98B VTVM, extremely clean, with probe and manual copy for WV-98C. I have the C model and don't need two VTVMs but couldn't resist this classy old guy at Timonium.

fyii, the C model has a mirror scale and a .5V DC range. Otherwise the two models are the same, with 6" meter well matched to my 53-year-old eyes.

Electrically, I've checked the ohms function (seems to be right on with a couple of precision resistors as checkpoints) and did not check AC or DC but the meter zeros and goes full scale FB. The line cord is (neatly) spliced. Innards seem perfect, and there's no battery corrosion.

How about \$15 plus shipping? I'm in Potomac, Md., zip 20854.

Best, Avery W40GK

From: JESelkregg@aol.com
Message-ID: <e4b1d422.35ce4ce6@aol.com>
Date: Sun, 9 Aug 1998 21:29:09 EDT
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Subject: Thanks, Re. knurled fasteners.
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Thanks for all of the responses and good info on where to obtain the "panel bolts".

This really finishes off a restored receiver.

Joe S.

Message-ID: <01BDC3E2.7A203C00@esieb.gmsiworld.com>
From: Ed Sieb <esieb@gmsiworld.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Subject: RE: Knurled fastener source?
Date: Sun, 9 Aug 1998 22:10:06 -0400
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Re: Knurled fasteners, Rack handles (bent and straight) and other suitable BA hardware:

Three firms come to mind: ASM Hardware, Globe hardware and RAF.
Knurled screws, and fasteners: RAF Electronic hardware, 203-888-2133,
email:< info@rafdhwe.com >
Web: www.rafdhwe.com

Globe: Globe Electronic hardware, 800-221-1505,, or 718-457-0303
www: <http://www.globeelectronics.com/>
Specialises in fasteners, (knurled, etc) rack handles, all kinds, etc.

ASM: a very very good source. Will find info and post soon.

73
Ed, VA3ES

Message-ID: <01BDC3E2.F697A340@esieb.gmsiworld.com>
From: Ed Sieb <esieb@gmsiworld.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: Knurled fastener source?
Date: Sun, 9 Aug 1998 22:13:35 -0400
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks, Jim, you found ASM's info before I did.
Very highly recommended, but Globe and RAF are excellent too.

> Accurate Screw Machine Co.
>10 Audrey Place
>Fairfield, NJ 07004
>201 244-9200
>201 244-9177 FAX

73,
Ed, VA3ES

Date: Sun, 9 Aug 1998 22:16:42 -0400 (EDT)
Message-Id: <1.5.4.16.19980809222735.317743e8@pop.mindspring.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: "Robert P. Buehlmann" <w4tim@mindspring.com>
Subject: FS Military BA's (Heavy)

Firebottle Fans,

Have the following military euipment for sale

1. SCR-543-A Transmitter/Receiver with chest CH-133. This is the military version of the Hallicrafters HT-8. Do not have the PE-108 power unit nor the antenna that mounts to the side of chest 133. Otherwise complete in above average condition and with copy of manual. Freight shipping advised but can bring to Shelby hamfest next month. Price \$ 250.00
2. AN/SRT-14 100 Watt Navy transmitter. Complete with manual, all tubes. 2-26 MHZ. Not twsted but in very clean condition externally and internally. Size: about 17 inches wide, 6 foot high and weight of 865 lbs. Can also bring to Shelby.
3. SCR-628 WW2 27-38 MHZ transmitter comprising of BC-684-dm transmitter and Bc-683-DM receiver. Complete less dynamoters and transmitter crystal holder cover. Together both units are clean, yet untested. Copy of manual included. Can bring to Shelby. Price \$ 100.00
4. Hetrodyne Frequency Meter Model LR. Complete untested condition in Very good condition. With manual. Can bring to Shelby. Price \$ 50.00
5. MT-327 mounting rack for VRC mobile radios such as RT-66/67 etc. Good condition Can bring to Shelby Price \$ 40.00

Message-Id: <3.0.5.32.19980810000525.00bf1a40@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 00:05:25 -0400
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Cincinnati, and will go by Lexington, KY, and then either Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Champaign-Urbana, Springfield, or I-64 by Louisville, Evansville, Ind., Mt. Vernon, Ill, and on up to Springfield. Can meet along that route if necessary - and would prefer that to trying to ship the stuff. Would also meet on south, down I-75 towards Knoxville a way on different date, or east on I-64 towards Huntington, W Va ditto. I would of course prefer pick-up in Richmond, Kentucky.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE:

Collins 75S-3, winged emblem. SN 14579. Two filters, SSB and CW. Extra crystals for WARC bands and extra 10 meter ranges. Very nice condition. Original manual. \$700

Heath "Apache" TX-1, with SB-10 SSB Generator. Stick-on letters on front

(call sign of guy who built the rig, K4CSG); otherwise good physical condition. Combination was working excellently on both CW and SSB, never tried it on AM. Inside, strap that connects grid tuning knob to grid tuning capacitor broke and needs replacing. With manuals. Both for \$100.

No shipping.

Johnson "Ranger," aka "Ranger I," with newer keying circuit. Never really tried on AM, but doing nicely on CW. Nice physical condition, with manual copy. \$200

Johnson "Invader 200" Decent physical condition, lower level problem (probably in lower oscillator circuit) as not working on all bands. Higher stages sound; about 150 watts out. Slight modification: mike jack nicely mounted on front panel, lower right. With manual. \$95
No shipping.

Lettine 240 transmitter. Plug-in coils, copy of manual. Plate coils for 80-40-20-15-10; grid coils for 80-40-20. Use 7 mHz grid coil for 15 mtrs, same or 20 mtr grid coil for 10 mtrs. \$75

Harvey-Wells VFO, slant top to go with TBS-50 "Bandmaster" series transmitters. Unused for about five years; decent physical condition. \$65

Knight VFO, with manual. \$50

Three DX-20's; two for parts, one should be working (one power xfmr for the three). \$30

Which leaves me with only four transmitters and four receivers to somehow struggle along with ;-). Not as though I'll be entirely bereft if all sell - and will still have good stuff for "CX."

73, Al N5AIT
modsteph@acs.eku.edu

Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 06:26:55 -0400
From: polepeeg@aaa4rm.ba-watch.org (BA Marina Electrician)
Message-Id: <199808101026.GAA22619@aaa4rm.ba-watch.org>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: amradio@thebizlink.com
Subject: RE: ULTRA AMPLITUDE MODULATION REF'S

Everyone that wrote on the subject missed the fact that by introducing assymetry into the AM modulation process, you were building-in distortion.

The greater the difference between negative peaks and positive, the more distortion and hence more 'splatter.'

Envelope, or diode, detectors in all AM sets rely on symmetric sideband formation and deformation for their success.

Wanna hear ultramodulation and distortion in the extreme? Listen to a SSB signal w/o a BFO/diode (oooooh, compromise) or a product detector.

A list member sent me (agn, tks) an RCA paper on using two PM exciters & a 90-deg phase shifter to do 'ultramod.' It was a sorta 1937 phasing SSB art'l that never suppressed carrier much but did emphasize one sb (peak) at the expense of the other - & may have led to comm'l designs that now allow 10% peak assymetry.

But what do we really want to do? Increase talk power, right? Well sorta, AM is good because it has bass.

Well to increase "talk power," one way is to reduce the carrier-to-sideband power ratio - which for AM is bad: .25 envelope power in each sb... and same info is in either sb.

Well one way to change this ratio is to 'debalance' a simple diode balanced modulator so, at least, the sb to carrier ratio rises to, say, 40% envelope power (50% is no carrier at all - dsb)

Then see what it sounds like on a diode detector.

Bad probably.

Anyway I've done all this typing w/o use of any math which soundly supports what I'm saying.

And all the ultramod art'ls I've read did w/o math too - making them read, at least to me, like motor honey ads.

Hoisy '4CJL & I are great buds but this position here doesn't help out that friendship

Hope this is grub for thot & experiment.

Best 2 all,

Marty

Message-ID: <35CE95EB.8B12EDB6@xmission.com>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 06:40:44 +0000
From: Dexter Francis <cwest@xmission.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RME-69 Paint Question
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; x-mac-type="54455854"; x-mac-creator="4D4F5353"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Greetings all -

Can anyone tell me what the original paint scheme was on the RME-69?
(There appear to have been three models.) Moore's book would indicate that
the front panel and dial bezel were a light color, but I can't tell from
the photo
what it may have been.

-df

Looking to Buy - Sell - Trade or Swap Tubes or BA Gear?
Visit our Web Page @ <http://www.xmission.com/~cwest>

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: boatanchors@theporch.com, wa8mlv@juno.com
Subject: Re: SX-42 gotchas

Message-ID: <19980810.084420.6623.2.KE8RN@juno.com>
From: ke8rn@juno.com (GEORGE J MISIC)
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 08:48:06 EDT

Swines is being kind to this BA for circuit access! Great when they are running; however. 73.

George KE8RN

On Sun, 09 Aug 1998 00:09:41 -0500 "A.B. Bonds" <ab@vuse.vanderbilt.edu> writes:

>Finishing up a total redo of an SX-42 (one o' them good-sounding
>radios....)
>Ran into two problems that might occur on other similar sets.
>
>The plate of the first rf stage is fed by a 1.2k resistor. This kept
>burning up, despite my efforts to find any ground path. Turns out
>that the
>plate is fed through a transformer winding. The lead is about 3"
>long. It
>is silk-covered wire. Although there is varnished cambric on the
>lead, it
>wasn't quite long enough. The wire was shorting onto a bandswitch
>pin,
>intermittently. After covering the lead with a longer piece of
>shrink, the
>problem went away.
>
>To be replaced by another problem. The 1.2K resistor feeding the
>plate to
>the SECOND rf tube also fried. Ah, think I, I know what's wrong. Put
>shrink on the transformer lead, no joy. This one involved a small
>burn that
>had appeared on the bandswitch, about a 2k path to ground. The trusty
>Dremel removed the offending substance and a small chunk of the nearby
>grounded spacer.
>
>I seem to be running short of 1.2k resistors... Did I mention that
>SX-42's
>are proper swines to work on? Well, they are.
>
>
>A. B. Bonds
>
>

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: boatanchors@theporch.com, gmisic@medrad.com, wa8mlv@juno.com,

doowop6@juno.com

Subject: Re: Let's see where this goes..

Message-ID: <19980810.084420.6623.0.KE8RN@juno.com>

From: ke8rn@juno.com (GEORGE J MISIC)

Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 08:48:06 EDT

Jim and BA Gang,

That is where I use my HQ-180. The only problem is on the BC band; I have a 100 foot longwire on it, and I can see the 50,000 watt tower of KDKA from the bedroom window. Can you say "overload, boys and girls? [Mr. Rogers is a Pittsburgh native (really)]. A couple candidates:

Most Humble: Hallicrafters S-119

Best VHF BA Receiver: Clegg Interceptor [Eddystone dial]

Smoothest operation; fewest knobs to turn: RME 6900

Most knob turning to change modes: HQ-170/180

73.

George KE8RN

On Sat, 8 Aug 1998 23:07:58 -0500 "Jim Zellmer" <zellmer@raccoon.com> writes:

>New Catagory:

>

>Best Bed Side BA : Hammarlund HQ-180. Good AM, SWL and Ham bands
>cruiser.

>Fair audio and sensitivity. The best part is the little half moons of
>light

>the show all around the room generated by 3 #47 bulbs and 5 gazillion
>little

>ventilation holes in the case. A wonderful night lite too.,

>

>73

>Jim Zellmer, KA0VSL

>

>

Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 08:52:00 -0400

From: Jim Garland W8ZR <4CX250B@miavx1.acs.muohio.edu>

Subject: Re: RME-69 Paint Question

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Message-id: <v03102809b1f49d2829bd@[134.53.65.12]>

MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>Greetings all -

>

>Can anyone tell me what the original paint scheme was on the RME-69?

>(There appear to have been three models.) Moore's book would indicate
>that

>the front panel and dial bezel were a light color, but I can't tell from
>the photo

>what it may have been.

>

>-df

>

All the RME-69s I've seen are black crackle finish, with no labels on any
controls. The lighter ones (as in Morre's book) must be very rare.

Jim Garland W8ZR

Message-Id: <3.0.1.16.19980810082927.3eb7dfc8@blue.weeg.uiowa.edu>

Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 08:29:27

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

From: Allan Culbert <Allan-Culbert@uiowa.edu>

Subject: AMANA HAMFEST REPORT

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Amana hamfest was by most accounts a success. Nearly 1,000 paid admissions
with clear skies and bearable temperatures.

Several persons from the BA list were spotted, W9RAN, W00IZ, and KE0MS.

Sadly, I was called to assist with a VE session during "prime" fleamarket
hours, but I did manage to note the following items of BA interest offered.

Johnson Valiant

Heath Warrior

Collins S-line 32S-3 / 75S-3B / 516F-2

R-390As (at least two)

BC-348 adapted for AC power

ART-13

Galaxy V with Console and AC power supply

Galaxy "Duo-bander"

Hallicrafters FPM-300

S-38 variants (several)

S-40 repainted the most hideous green I have EVER seen

Heath HW-12

Heath HW-16
BC-221s (several in various states of originality)
Collins 32T (complete and sold for \$35)
SP-600
HQ-145X
SX-28
SX-25 with matching speaker
Johnson 6N2 Thunderbolt (modified)
Kenwood "twins" R-599 / T-599
Heath SB-300 / 400 pair
SX-117
Ht-44
FT-101EE
Drake 4-line
Drake 2-A / 2-AC / 2-AQ
SX-111
DX-100
Elmac PMR-8 / AF-68
Harvey Wells Bandmaster with matching VFO
Johnson Adventurer
Loudenboomer Amplifier
HW-101s (several)
DX-60
Knight T-60
Several Vibroplex keys
QSTs back to 1932
CQs back to and including 1945 issues
A good offering of ARRL handbooks by several people
Several Hickock tube testers
A box of JEL series plug in coils
HT-37s (several)
A few small offerings of Collins parts and new manuals

73

Al, K0AL

Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 09:46:04 -0400 (EDT)
Message-Id: <1.5.4.16.19980810095658.33b77cd0@pop.mindspring.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: "Robert P. Buehlmann" <w4tim@mindspring.com>
Subject: FS Forgot to mention a GRC-19

Firebottle Fans.

Oops I fergot to list the GRC-19 I also wish to sell.
Unit is clean inside but has the usual paint scars from use on
the outside. Also included is a 2nd parts unit. No Documentation.
Can bring to Shelby NC hamfest if purchaser desires. Shipping otherwise
as with items listed yesterday is extra. Price \$ 50.00

Also have numerous parts from BC-342 and NC-240-D that have been
parted out. As of now the 240-D power transformer, case have been
taken as well
as the 342 ac supply, decal, case, tuning locks and front panel power
connecter. Email me of your needs for availability and price.

73 de Tim

Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 09:20:11 -0500
From: "James C. Garland" <4CX250B@miavx1.acs.muohio.edu>
Subject: RE: ULTRA AMPLITUDE MODULATION REF'S
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id: <v03102804b1f4aba48279@[134.53.4.141]>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Marty, AA4RM writes in part:

>Everyone that wrote on the subject missed the fact that by introducing
>assymetry into the AM modulation process, you were building-in
>distortion.
>
>The greater the difference between negativve peaks and positive,
>the more distortion and hence more 'splatter.'
>
>
>And all the ultramod art'ls read,
>at least to me, like motor honey ads.
>

I think Marty has a good point, and I'm glad to know others have worried
about this issue too. I agree that whenever audio is processed to limit
the negative peaks, or to expand the positive peaks, distortion of the
speech waveform occurs. Whether splatter is created is another matter,
however. Splatter-free processing can easily be accomplished if the
modulation of the r.f. carrier takes place in a low level stage -- the
reason being that the modulated signal can be filtered by, e.g. a 6kHz

mechanical filter, thus removing all splatter. High level plate modulation is another story, of course, since it's generally not a good idea to run the output of your 4-1000A modulated by 810s through a mechanical filter.

Everyone knows that normal speech is very assymetrical, which is why hams often reverse the wires of a microphone to emphasize positive peaks of the modulation envelope on an AM rig. The interesting question is how much processing (artificial expansion of the positive peaks or compression of the negative peaks) is desirable. All processing introduces distortion products, but whether the distortion makes the audio sound "better" or "fuller" is a subjective matter. AM broadcast stations often use processed audio to give voices added punch, and some of them sound great. I'd guess that about 10-20db of compression is okay. It's not hi-fidelitiy, but it sounds fine.

I still can remember some of the great sounding AM stations from my youth. I used to marvel at TG9AD's twenty meter AM signal from Guatemala City, and have wondered for years what kind of processing he used.

There are, of course, many types of processing schemes. The ones intended for ssb can be quite clever, such as the Magnum 6, DX engineering, and VOMAX processors. These schemes all give significant improvement in "talk power," but they also give the transmitted signal a "harsh" sound, which most people find unpleasant. Good-sounding AM processors tend to be "companders" of one sort or another, such as the one in a recent issue of QST

73,

Jim Garland W8ZR

From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@netcom.com>
Message-Id: <199808101502.IAA17469@netcom13.netcom.com>
Subject: Re: RME-69 Paint Question
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 09:02:07 -0600 (MDT)
Cc: boatanchors@theporch.com
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

As Dexter Francis discourses

>

> Greetings all -

>

> Can anyone tell me what the original paint scheme was on the RME-69?

> (There appear to have been three models.) Moore's book would indicate

> that

> the front panel and dial bezel were a light color, but I can't tell from

> the photo

> what it may have been.

>

My RME-69 corpse (needs total rebuild, starting with a power transformer) dates from 1938. Cabinet and face plate are finished in black crackle, "the usual" for a lot of old stuff.

The 69 was offered as a basic radio starting in 1936. There were several significant changes before 1938, most notable is the change of the crystal filter circuitry. A later variation had minor changes to the first audio circuit. RME was notorious for making running changes in production which didn't appear on published schematics for some time. In addition to the filter change, which evidently was very early, there are detail changes to the power supply, particularly the use of a power transformer with a separate heater winding for the audio output tube in later sets and changes to the main B+ filter.

The sets were offered with a Lamb noise filter (the IF amplifier type, similar to that used in the Hallicrafters SX-28) which was not an "add-on" but built on the chassis at time of manufacture. There was also a battery version. RME also packaged things like their DB-20 preselector in the same box using a different cabinet and faceplate.

RME (like National in the '30's and Millen) was a small shop who would take and execute one-off and short-run bespoke orders for variants on their standard products. The picture of the 69 in Moore does appear to be painted a non-crackle color, possibly beige or grey. RME appears to have bought their cabinets from Bud, who generally supplied them prefinished, with black crackle the standard, although they would finish to customer specs. It is likely that the set shown in Moore was a bespoke order variant to the standard 69.

I note that my RME-45 has a non-standard faceplate that was manually punched as a one-off in a shop that had proper equipment for doing so. While it was an "early" 45, from component dates, the original circuitry had several variations from early published schematics. Since the panel is painted haze grey enamel, I suspect it may be a one-off built this way by RME for submission to the US Navy as a "first article" on a bid response.

You always want to take time to trace out the actual wiring of sets like these that came out of small houses, as I have yet to see one

that matches any published schematics accurately. Of course, you'll have to look the actual wiring schematic over carefully to see if the changes are "as-built" or the result of later "repairs," which can generate miswires needing correction.

--

=====
Hank van Cleef
=====

Message-Id: <3.0.1.32.19980810100955.00a7ae20@vuse.vanderbilt.edu>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 10:09:55 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: "A. B. Bonds" <ab@vuse.vanderbilt.edu>
Subject: Re: SX-42 gotchas
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 08:48 AM 8/10/98 EDT, you wrote:

>Swines is being kind to this BA for circuit access! Great when they are
>running; however. 73.

>

>George KE8RN

The latest: Got all the various leaks plugged, hotted it up, started making sound on AM, but not too cleanly. Checked voltages, audio is biased OK (for a change), detector is not working right. Decided to run up the band. On band three there was a big flash from a wafer on the bandswitch and it started smoking. Ditto band four.

Apparently the phenolic is compromised. I gotta think on this one....

73 A. B. Bonds

Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 11:21:50 -0400 (EDT)
From: Bill Strangfeld <bstrang@iac.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Best VHF BA rx
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.93.980810090134.2136B-100000@crystal.iac.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Mon, 10 Aug 1998, GEORGE J MISIC wrote:

> Best VHF BA Receiver: Clegg Interceptor (Eddystone dial)

On that subject, old QST ads say there was an Interceptor and an Interceptor B. What was the difference? Anybody know?

73

Bill, WB8YUW

Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 11:31:38 -0400 (EDT)
Message-Id: <199808101531.LAA02172@pop.uky.edu>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: "William L. Fuqua III" <wlfuqu00@pop.uky.edu>
Subject: HQ-110 Meter Cover

I have lost the meter cover for my HQ-110. I need a replacement.
If some one has a spare please contact me. My meter movement is ok.

73

Bill wa4lav

William L. Fuqua III P.E. E-mail WLFUQU00@POP.UKY.EDU Phone (606) 257-4155
Department of Physics and Astronomy CP-177 Chem. Phys. Bldg.
University of Kentucky , Lexington, Ky 40506-0055

End of BOATANCHORS Digest 2163

>From ???@??? Tue Aug 11 05:46:23 1998
Message-Id: <199808102117.QAA20230@sco.theporch.com>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 16:16:33 CDT
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 2164

BOATANCHORS Digest 2164

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) Anybody know R. J. Miller, W6EK
by Bill Hawkins <bill@iaxs.net>
- 2) Fuse both leads??
by "Ed Santavicca" <santavic@ct.picker.com>
- 3) Re: GB> Anybody know R. J. Miller, W6EK
by Dexter Francis <cwest@xmission.com>

- 4) BA's in Cincinnati area?
by johnmb@mindspring.com
- 5) Re: BA's in Cincinnati area?
by "Ed Santavicca" <santavic@ct.picker.com>
- 6) Re: Best VHF BA rx
by ke8rn@juno.com
- 7) Re: SX-42 gotchas
by ke8rn@juno.com
- 8) Great Hobby
by "Ed Santavicca" <santavic@ct.picker.com>
- 9) Re: Best VHF BA rx
by Jim Lockwood <jmlckwd@mindspring.com>
- 10) 1947 or 1948 ARRL H/B circuit
by BEN NOCK <G4BXD@compuserve.com>
- 11) Vacuum tube receivers for sale
by "Walt Novinger" <wnovinger@shaw.wave.ca>
- 12) Re: SX-42 gotchas
by Rodger Singley <rbsingl@mail.ilstu.edu>
- 13) Test equipment for sale
by "Walt Novinger" <wnovinger@shaw.wave.ca>
- 14) RE: BA's in Cincinnati area?
by Ed Sieb <esieb@gmsiworld.com>
- 15) S-118
by "Rhett T. George" <rtg@ee.duke.edu>
- 16) Re: SX-42 gotchas -Reply
by Bob Reynolds <breynd@sigg.com>
- 17) Big Capacitors
by "Rhett T. George" <rtg@ee.duke.edu>
- 18) FIRST USE OF COAX
by JOHN_SEHRING.parti@ecunet.org (JOHN SEHRING)
- 19) LET'S SEE WHERE THIS GOES...
by JOHN_SEHRING.parti@ecunet.org (JOHN SEHRING)
- 20) Best BA RX ain't Interceptor
by MNHopkins@aol.com
- 21) FS: National NC-183D
by Sandy W5TVW <ebjr@worldnet.att.net>

Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 10:51:45 -0500 (CDT)
From: Bill Hawkins <bill@iaxs.net>
Message-Id: <199808101551.KAA12865@citrus.iaxs.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Anybody know R. J. Miller, W6EK

Picked up an Eitel-McCullough(sp?) tube manual at St. Cloud. At least, that's what I thought it was. When I cracked it, I got curves for an Eimac tube. But it was also a notebook for Robert J. Miller, W6EK, born in 1904 and still active last year, in New Ulm, MN. I expect he is a SK now, given that his book

turned up 150 miles away.

There was a typewritten account of a trip from San Francisco to Mazatlan in 1936 aboard a Navy cruiser, but no mention of rank or duties. There was a letter from ARRL congratulating him on qualifying at 35 wpm code, and saying this made him pretty special even if it didn't prove he could build his own transmitter and receiver. Guess that was before appliances. And some stuff about QSL card bureaus and a list of foreign QSL's he was expecting.

I bought an ARRL code tape set to listen to on the way back, but had to quit when traffic picked up. Would be OK if someone else was driving.

Regards,
Bill Hawkins

Message-Id: <9808101559.AA21795@ct.picker.com>
From: "Ed Santavicca" <santavic@ct.picker.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 11:58:52 -0500
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7BIT
Subject: Fuse both leads??

Hi guys.

I was planning to move my KWM-2 to another car this weekend and remember reading in QST that both leads to the battery need to be fused. Right now, only the positive lead is fused. I spent an hour or so looking for the article without success. I think the July 98 issue mentioned it again without going into detail. I vaguely remember it making sense, but can't put my finger on it now.

Why would you need to fuse the negative lead as well??

73, Ed

Ed Santavicca

73 de AA8TV
Piper Warrior N44076
santavic@ct.picker.com

Message-ID: <35CEFCFC3.EE83757B@xmission.com>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 10:47:35 +0000
From: Dexter Francis <cwest@xmission.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
CC: boatanchors@theporch.com, glowbugs@piobaire.mines.uidaho.edu
Subject: Re: GB> Anybody know R. J. Miller, W6EK
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; x-mac-type="54455854"; x-mac-creator="4D4F5353"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Bill Hawkins wrote:

"There was a letter from ARRL congratulating him on qualifying at 35 wpm code, and saying this made him pretty special even if it didn't prove he could build his own transmitter and receiver."

Sort of puts a fresh perspective on the current licensing requirements, don't it?

-df

Looking to Buy - Sell - Trade or Swap Tubes or BA Gear?
Visit our Web Page @ <http://www.xmission.com/~cwest>

From: johnmb@mindspring.com
Message-Id: <199808101652.MAA11289@camel14.mindspring.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: BA's in Cincinnati area?
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 12:42 -0400

I'm going to be traveling to the N.Kentucky/greater Cincinnati area quite a bit in the next 6 months. Are there any BA sites I should see? Any good junkie shops I should check out?

Best
John

Message-Id: <9808101718.AB24495@ct.picker.com>
From: "Ed Santavica" <santavic@ct.picker.com>

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 13:17:59 -0500
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7BIT
Subject: Re: BA's in Cincinnati area?

John,

If your in Cincinnati, a couple hours drive to the north will put you at Fair Radio Sales 1016 East Eureka St in Lima, Ohio. This is a must see if your in the Ohio Area. Just the smell of the place gives me goose bumps. I went with another fellow anchorest from Canada, Ed Sieb VA3ES and had a great time.

They have Saturday hours too.

<http://www2.wcoil.com/~fairradio/index.html>

73, Ed

On 10 Aug 98, at 12:42, johnmb@mindspring.com wrote:

> I'm going to be traveling to the N.Kentucky/greater Cincinnati area quite
> a bit in the next 6 months. Are there any BA sites I should see? Any good
> junk shops I should check out?
> Best
> John
>

Ed Santavicca

73 de AA8TV
Piper Warrior N44076
santavic@ct.picker.com

From: ke8rn@juno.com
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: boatanchors@theporch.com, wa8mlv@juno.com

Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 13:36:48 -0400
Subject: Re: Best VHF BA rx
Message-ID: <19980810.134203.14198.1.KE8RN@juno.com>

Bill,

I honestly don't know! I have an Interceptor now, and I owned an Interceptor B about twenty years ago. I can't recall the B in enough detail to remember any significant difference. 73.

George KE8RN

On Mon, 10 Aug 1998 11:21:50 -0400 (EDT) Bill Strangfeld
<bstrang@iac.net> writes:
>
>On Mon, 10 Aug 1998, GEORGE J MISIC wrote:
>
>> Best VHF BA Receiver: Clegg Interceptor (Eddystone dial)
>
>On that subject, old QST ads say there was an Interceptor and an
>Interceptor B. What was the difference? Anybody know?
>
>73
>Bill, WB8YUW
>
>

From: ke8rn@juno.com
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: ke8rn@juno.com, boatanchors@sco.theporch.com, wa8mlv@juno.com
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 13:33:22 -0400
Subject: Re: SX-42 gotchas
Message-ID: <19980810.134203.14198.0.KE8RN@juno.com>

A.B. and BA Crew,

I've had this happen twice in the past, once to an National NC-125, and once to a Hallicrafters S20R. The NC-125 got a new bandswitch wafer; I said the heck with it for the S-20R! 73.

George KE8RN

On Mon, 10 Aug 1998 10:09:55 -0500 "A. B. Bonds" <ab@vuse.vanderbilt.edu>
writes:
>At 08:48 AM 8/10/98 EDT, you wrote:
>>Swines is being kind to this BA for circuit access! Great when they
>are

>>running; however. 73.
>>
>>George KE8RN
>
>The latest: Got all the various leaks plugged, hotted it up, started
>making sound on AM, but not too cleanly. Checked voltages, audio is
>biased
>OK (for a change), detector is not working right. Decided to run up
>the
>band. On band three there was a big flash from a wafer on the
>bandswitch
>and it started smoking. Ditto band four.
>
>Apparently the phenolic is compromised. I gotta think on this one....
>
> 73 A. B. Bonds
>
>

Message-Id: <9808101754.AA25877@ct.picker.com>
From: "Ed Santavicca" <santavic@ct.picker.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 13:54:25 -0500
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7BIT
Subject: Great Hobby

I just wanted to say thanks to Art Larky K3HBA for sending me a manual copy of my HP-410.

His payment requirement was for me to return the favor to another ham.

I'm very glad I earned the right to be a Ham. This hobby has been good for my head, hands, and heart for over 30 years.

Thanks Art

Most sincere
73, Ed

Ed Santavicca

73 de AA8TV
Piper Warrior N44076
santavic@ct.picker.com

Message-Id: <3.0.32.19980810141040.006a10bc@pop.mindspring.com>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 14:13:25 -0400
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: Jim Lockwood <jmlckwd@mindspring.com>
Subject: Re: Best VHF BA rx
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 11:21 AM 8/10/98 -0400, Bill Strangfeld wrote:

>

>On Mon, 10 Aug 1998, GEORGE J MISIC wrote:

>

>> Best VHF BA Receiver: Clegg Interceptor (Eddystone dial)

I've got one of these and I have to agree that it works extremely well. It's very quiet and it definitely qualifies as a "smooth" receiver. It also scores points for "personality", what with that white face, black dial, and "hooded" (for lack of a better description) cabinet.

My only complaint against it is that it uses a gaggle of Nuvistors (9, if memory serves) and one of the Tubes From Hell, the dreaded 7360.

>

>On that subject, old QST ads say there was an Interceptor and an

>Interceptor B. What was the difference? Anybody know?

Ah, speaking of the 7360.... it was found in the first incarnation of the Interceptor but (as I understand it) was absent in the "B". There may be other differences between the two, but for my money this has to be the most significant one.

73,

Jim - K4CCF

(formerly KM6NK, WA4K00, WN4K00)
Looking for original QSL cards from K4CCF

<http://www.mindspring.com/~johnmb/radiorm1.htm>

Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 15:12:57 -0400
From: BEN NOCK <G4BXD@compuserve.com>
Subject: 1947 or 1948 ARRL H/B circuit
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-ID: <199808101513_MC2-55B2-424F@compuserve.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Disposition: inline

A friend has asked if I can find him the circuit of a transmitter which w=
as

described in either the 47 or 48 ARRL handbook. The tx comprises several
racks, 19 inch, which house 3 psu frames, an exciter frame, a modulator
frame and a pa frame. The tx is xtal controled, 813 pa, pair of 807 mods,=

driven by 6V6, set uses plug in coils. =

Thats all I have on it at the moment but if anyone has the 47/48 handbook=
s
maybe they can look through the hf tx section for me. =

cheers, Ben G4BXD.

Message-ID: <002401bdc495\$d418acc0\$6f3c4018@wnovinger.shl.com>
From: "Walt Novinger" <wnovinger@shaw.wave.ca>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Vacuum tube receivers for sale
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 13:34:02 -0600
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Culling collection to accomodate additional hobbies. If you need additional
info, please email questions.

We've a variety of equipment from stereo equipment (1950-ish
speaker/cabinets), test equipment (40's to present) and receivers (vacuum

tube and digital) available to new homes.

Marconi CSR5A (general coverage receiver works extremely well, very sensitive, s-meter added to front panel) \$150

Marconi Electra (striking receiver appearance-wise, works, very difficult to find, overall cosmetics very good. This receiver has been modified to accomodate a professionally constructed internal power supply which has been fitted inside the original manufacturer's cabinet, works.) \$400

Pye Model 39HC (British-made wood cabinet receiver, works, dial excellent, overall very good condition) \$250

Hallicrafters SX-23 (Typically very difficult to find especially in fine cosmetic and working condition. This Hallicrafters model was manufactured for a short period of time; I believe one year. Raymond Lowey is believed to have been involved in the design of this uniquely attractive receiver. The gray painted chassis is original and is in excellent condition as is the overall receiver. Easily a 9 on a scale of 1 to 10) \$575

Hallicrafters SX 28A (Have seen at least a dozen nice examples of this model receiver. This receiver has the nicest knobs of any SX-28 we've ever seen. I'd call them a 9 on a scale of 1 to 10. The front panel has had a toggle switch added (alongside the BASS toggle)-- it's been extremely well done, tho I don't know what it is supposed to do. On a scale of 1 to 10, the legends, front panel, etc. are an easy 9. BTW, it's also marked SX-28A on the front panel. Internally the receiver has been modified -- one mod is a Collins filter addition, audio mods are apparent as well. Works but needs electrical restoration.) \$200

Hallicrafters SkyBuddy S19R (One of the earlier Hallicrafters, still has original speaker grille flocking, very good cosmetic condition) \$125

Hammarlund HQ 145A (Double conversion, similar appearance to HQ 180, no clock, chassis immaculate, front panel excellent, perforated-design cabinet ala HQ-180 has some minor scratches) \$175

RCA AR88 LF (Black wrinkle boatanchor that carries an equally weighty reputation as one of the best superhets ever. National S-meter has been added, receiver works but has not had cosmetic or electrical restoration, also has a cabinet.) \$200

RCA BP61X (Vacuum tube lunchbox-style portable, works, cosmetics 8.5 on scale of 1 to 10) \$75

RCA A-3 (Wood cabinet receiver, recently tuned, good condition, works very well) \$75

Breting 14 (Newly powder-coated cabinet, mirror excellent, escutcheon very nice, this 1930's vintage radio hasn't been restored electrically yet) \$350

Patterson PR-16 (Cosmetics very good, recapped, suprisingly sensitive receiver with a unique look) \$425

Stromberg Carlson Model 874 (Wood cabinet, battery operated set in good condition, untested) \$50

Phillips (Small maroon bakelite tabletop shortwave receiver in very nice condition, excellent reception, great little receiver on SW bands) \$65

All prices are in U.S. dollars, shipping is not included.

Walt

=====

Walt Novinger	Real Radios Keep You Warm At Night!
Collector of hollowstate communications receivers and test equipment	
wnovinger@shaw.wave.ca	

Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 14:36:07 -0500 (CDT)
Message-Id: <199808101936.0AA15154@mail.ilstu.edu>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: Rodger Singley <rbsingl@mail.ilstu.edu>
Subject: Re: SX-42 gotchas

A.B. and BA Crew,

If you cannot find a good replacement bandswitch it is not terribly difficult to replace the bad wafer with another same sized wafer. I am presuming it is not the rotating contact which is causing problems. If this is true, you will need to transplant the inner rotating wafer and possibly some of the contacts to a "donor" wafer. I had to do this for a National radio, it was not a difficult procedure. My SX62 had a similar problem from built up lubricant/cleaner and dust. I was able to clean (solvent+hot water/soap followed by distilled water rinse) mine but it sounds like yours probably has a deep carbon path burned into the wafer.

Rodger WQ9E

Message-ID: <002701bdc496\$2f4dac80\$6f3c4018@wnovinger.shl.com>
From: "Walt Novinger" <wnovinger@shaw.wave.ca>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Test equipment for sale

Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 13:36:34 -0600
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

We have a mix of hollow- and solidstate test equipment available to go to new homes.

Hickok Model 156 Traceometer w/probes. Very good condition, works. Manual copy. \$150

Hickok 288-X in good condition, one escutcheon is broken off at top edge but luckily it doesn't make it look terrible from a cosmetic standpoint. Very nice condition overall. Manual copy. \$65

Heathkit IM-58 Harmonic Distortion Meter in good condition, works, \$45

Hewlett-Packard Model 5328A Universal Counter w/HP-IB IO Opt. 011 and Opt. H99 (TCX0) in good condition, works \$550

RCA Chanalyst w/probes and manual copy. Works and is in very nice condition. \$150

Starkit Sweep Marker Generator is in very nice condition, \$15

Simpson Model 480 Genescope with original manual. \$75

Singer Spectrum Analyzer, MF-5 w/VR4 Module. Very good condition, works and has manual from Tucker. \$135

Heathkit IO-102 Scope (works, manual copy available and is in nice cosmetic condition) \$45

All prices are in U.S. dollars, shipping is extra.

Please email if you require further info.

Walt

=====

Walt Novinger	Real Radios Keep You Warm At Night!
Collector of hollowstate communications receivers and test equipment	
wnovinger@shaw.wave.ca	

Message-ID: <01BDC475.F899F920@esieb.gmsiworld.com>
From: Ed Sieb <esieb@gmsiworld.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Subject: RE: BA's in Cincinnati area?
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 15:45:53 -0400
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ah... I _LOVE_ the smell of Fair Radio in the Morning...
Real, Live Rubber... MFP varnish... mildewy manuals... and that wonderful Lima
fragrance!
Yep, you just can't beat it! ;-)

Ed, VA3ES

From: "Rhett T. George" <rtg@ee.duke.edu>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 15:43:12 -0400
Message-Id: <199808101943.PAA25754@dsil11.ee.duke.edu>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: S-118

- Greetings -

Recently an attractive S-118 came to live at my home. The chassis is
dusty. The tubes are all branded with the Hallicrafters logo which
leads me to think it has low mileage. The cabinet is another story.
Burned pain, rust, garish bumper sticker, most everything but bent.
I hope to do minimal touchup on the bottom so that the tube layout
sticker is not disturbed. Sides and top really need a total paint
job. Any suggestions on the matching paint for this light gray cabinet
will be welcome.

I shall also welcome hints as to the function of the RCA phono jack
on the back. It seems to be ac-coupled to the AGC line. Now that
makes no sense to me. The straight skinny on this connector is pre-
ferred, but hunches are welcome. Thanks.

73 Rhett - KE4HIH

Message-Id: <98Aug10.145044cdt.26893@firewall.sigg.com>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 14:53:42 -0500
From: Bob Reynolds <breynd@sigg.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: SX-42 gotchas -Reply
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

Content-Disposition: inline

>>> is not terribly difficult to replace the bad
>>> wafer with another same sized wafer.

I had to do this with an S-85, found a similar size and same function wafer in the middle of a multi wafer switch at a hamfest. Pulled it out and stuck in the S-85 and has been working fine for about 15 years now. It is not difficult.

Was weird watching the fire in the rx when the original wafer went !

73, Red K5V0L

From: "Rhett T. George" <rtg@ee.duke.edu>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 16:08:40 -0400
Message-Id: <199808102008.QAA25946@dsil111.ee.duke.edu>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Big Capacitors

- Greetings -

Over the years I have acquired too many caps. Perhaps some of you near Durham, NC, will want the biggies. If you will be at Shelby, NC, this year and want one or more, let me know. They are not worth shipping. Delivery from my hand to yours is fine.

G E Pyranol	1 uF @ 25 kV	Free
G E (1966 manufacture)	10 uF @ 2 kV - one post is tilted	\$8
Two CSI (7/84 date)	53.3 uF @ 3.5 kV	\$20 each

None have oil leaks.

73 Rhett - KE4HIH

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 16:11:53 -0400 (EDT)
Subject: FIRST USE OF COAX
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: JOHN_SEHRING.parti@ecunet.org (JOHN SEHRING)
Message-ID: <9808101611.aa09750@pcusa01.ecunet.org>

Coax was looked at by the Bell System in early 30s. They needed something with wider bandwidth than twisted pair for their frequency-multiplexed voice transmission which needed wider bandwidth.

Then, in mid-late 30s, when TV was being made practical, coax was the way to transmit wideband (say 4 MHz) bandwidth video sigs over the long distance system to give network TV.

Coax really came into the scene in WWII for radar & such. Proper plastics were needed for the inner insulator & that all needed to be developed.

-John Sehring (11:12 am Sun, Aug 9, 1998 at Custer, SD USA) ucc wb2eqg

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 16:11:52 -0400 (EDT)
Subject: LET'S SEE WHERE THIS GOES...
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: JOHN_SEHRING.parti@ecunet.org (JOHN SEHRING)
Message-ID: <9808101611.aa09741@pcusa01.ecunet.org>

> Nearly all AM radios sound "constipated" to me, including my R-390A
> except in MVC/MGC (and full bandwidth mode, of course). Maybe an
> artifact of the AGC running the IF amp close to cutoff and
> compressing its amplitude range and / or low level detector
> nonlinearity . BC-348 manual mentions this as one reason it runs
> high level detection and it's one of the few sets that doesn't sound
> cramped to me.

A poorly designed or operating AGC system can allow some of the detected signal modulation (AF) to get into (modulate) the AGC line. This can really mess up the detected audio by "remodulation" of the signal via the agc-controlled stages of the rx. Low freqs are more likely affected by this.

A simple fix is to use a long time-constant AGC release but effective bypassing is a must.

What is "high level detection" per your note?

I've noticed that some SW broadcasting AM transmitters' RF output varies with modulation. I don't know if this is normal or not or an artifact of special modulation techniques, anybody?

This variation in received signal strength (due to modulation) will show up

on the rx's AGC line. The radio will attempt to compensate, to the limit of the slope of its AGC characteristic, for this variation. It will most certainly lead to distortion (un-modulation of the signal, if you will). The only question is, how much & what kind of distortion?

- > Detuning the AGC IF stage on an NC-183 to reduce AGC
- > level and raise detector output without changing the time constant
- > really did eliminate the cramped sounding audio without affecting the
- > sets ability to cope with strong sigs which sounded much better and
- > without overloading.

I had an NC-183D & found the audio way too muffled & bassy even with widest selectivity. As an experiment tried stagger tuning the 455 kHz IF's but didn't help (not surprising).

However, I don't see how increasing (or decreasing) the signal level at the 2nd detector will have any effect on its audio frequency response (or IF response, i.e. selectivity) unless there's some kind of non-linearity in it. I recall non-linearity is a problem with envelope detectors only at low input levels.

Reducing the gain of the AGC IF amp channel (by detuning it) will result in less AGC voltage per volt of input (at antenna) volts. This will reduce overload margin and raise the slope of the output vs. input (AGC) characteristic making it less flat (less control).

It is my impression (but I never measured it) that the AGC characteristic of the -183D was such that beyond a rather high input RF level, audio output actually *decreased* with further increases in signal strength. That would mean an output vs. input level graph that had a mild peak in the middle of it, sloping downward on either side. An "ordinary" plot of same might have some bends in it, but be always increasing at some rate to the right of the plot.

I partly got this impression about the AGC from listening to deeply fading SW AM bdcst signals on the -183D. When strong signals faded down due to selective fading, leaving too much sideband energy vs. carrier energy (sounds like overmodulation, lousy sound, lots of distortion), the fade was accompanied by a really loud blast (more than usual) of distorted signal as the gain was pulled up a lot (which is normal, when there is less signal, but maybe too much) by the AGC.

It's been many years since I had the radio, wish I could verify (or deny!) some of this. What say you?

I don't like the way AGC is generated on the -183D (and many communications and consumer radios) of this period. The AGC channel was made to have *less* selectivity than the main IF channel which fed the detector. This

was done to aid the "consumer" in correctly tuning the radio & to suppress some inter-station (or off-channel) noise.

The effect of this is to allow the radio to be densensed by strong, adjacent channel sigs. It reduces the "effective", dynamic selectivity of the radio.

Langford-Smith goes into all this at great length in the Radiotron handbook.

> This will be the basis for a 'Fidelity mod" to my '390A when I get
> around to trying it. Try your Collins on "MGC" in full bandwidth and see
> if the "constipation" abates. If not the source is probably after the
> last IF can.

Ditto above reasons.

-John Sehring (9:22 am Sun, Aug 9, 1998 at Custer, SD USA) ucc wb2eqg

From: MNHopkins@aol.com
Message-ID: <e2e1f37e.35cf5756@aol.com>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 16:25:57 EDT
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Subject: Best BA RX ain't Interceptor
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

The Clegg Interceptor, a 20M RX with converters for 6 and 2, is not qualitatively different from a HQ-170A VHF, one of the all time great rigs.

The old timers used separate converters in front of various sets, often BC-348s, to good effect, but the king of the BA VHF RXs is the 1959 Tapetone 345 Skysweep, a 49 to 54mc with plug in spots for the Tapetone XC series converters -- the best of the era. Those converters were Cadillacs to Tecraft's Buick. The Tapetones had extensive shielding and trapping. Moreover, there are certain advantages to using a 6M IF.

So spin your Eddystone, but don't think you are that far uptown.

73 de ab5L, michael in dallas, student of Tecraft and International Crystal (ICM) ham products and mementoes of Six Meters' Golden Age: 1957-58
Michael Hopkins
Box 226841
Dallas, TX 75222 MNHopkins@AOL.com

Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: Sandy W5TVW <ebjr@worldnet.att.net>
Subject: FS: National NC-183D
Message-Id: <19980810211549.LGVN27163@LOCALNAME>
Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 21:15:49 +0000

Thinning out my boatanchor stuff here. Have a National NC-183D, all original knobs, working well with manual copy. Very clean inside. Has been "re-resistored" (common for 50's National receivers) where needed. Cosmetically: panel an 8, cabinet has a few scratches here and there, so overall a 7.

Best offer over \$200 and buyer pays shipping/packing.

73,
Sandy W5TVW

End of BOATANCHORS Digest 2164
